

Doc. # 5495
ADOPTED

MEMORANDUM

JUNE 4, 1992

TO: BOSTON REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY AND
THEODORE S. CHANDLER, ACTING DIRECTOR

FROM: THOMAS O'MALLEY, ASSISTANT DIRECTOR
NEIGHBORHOOD HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT
MICHAEL BARTOSIAK, ASSISTANT DIRECTOR
REAL ESTATE SERVICES
EDWARD O'DONNELL, DEPUTY DIRECTOR
MANAGEMENT AND OPERATIONS

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR AUTHORIZATION TO TRANSFER CERTAIN
PARKLAND AND OPEN SPACE TO CITY OF BOSTON PARKS AND
RECREATION DEPARTMENT

SUMMARY: This memorandum requests authorization for final conveyance of
public parkland and open space to the City of Boston Parks and
Recreation Department.

The Boston Redevelopment Authority (BRA) has acquired throughout the years hundreds of thousands of square feet in public parks and open space through the urban renewal process. Of the seven parks included herein, totalling 269,784 square feet, none remain under the care of BRA property management crews. All seven parks are either maintained by the Parks and Recreation Department or through agreements with private concerns. These parklands have represented not only a duplication of effort to that provided by the City of Boston's Parks and Recreation Department, but also a draw upon the BRA's resources in terms of maintenance and liability insurance.

In 1991, the BRA began the task of conveying much of this public parkland to its rightful custodian, Parks and Recreation, by transferring 759,845 square feet. In addition, the BRA Board of Directors authorized the conveyance of 75,418 square feet to the Commonwealth of Massachusetts's Department of Environmental Management (DEM) for the creation of the Roxbury Heritage State Park. Most recently, these conveyances have continued with the February 13, 1992 transfer to Parks and Recreation of Eliot Norton Park, representing 43,003 square feet, the March 6, 1992 transfer to the City of Boston's Environment Department of 64,231 square feet of land on St. Richard Street and 66,240 square feet of land in and around Northampton Street to the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority (MBTA).

MO/05.BMEM
060292/1

The remaining parkland and open space which the BRA seeks to convey includes:

<u>Address</u>	<u>Ward</u>	<u>Sq. Ft.</u>	<u>Proposed Conveyee</u>
1. Union, Austin, Rutherford Charlestown	2	17,653	Parks and Recreation
2. Waterfront Park, Downtown	3	178,155	Parks and Recreation
3. Watson Park, South End	3	3,579	Parks and Recreation
4. School St. Park, Downtown	3	3,251	Parks and Recreation
5. Cardinal Cushing Park Government Center	3	14,288	Parks and Recreation
6. 108-122 Intervale St. Brunswick-King	14	31,667	Parks and Recreation
7. 236-250 Magnolia St. Brunswick-King	14	<u>21,191</u>	Parks and Recreation
TOTAL		269,784	

It is therefore requested that the Director be authorized to convey these above mentioned properties to the City of Boston Parks and Recreation Department.

An appropriate vote follows:

VOTED: That the Director be authorized to execute appropriate deeds and/or other appropriate transfer documents conveying certain BRA owned parkland and open space to the City of Boston Parks and Recreation Department, such deeds and documents to contain such terms and conditions as the Director deems appropriate and in the best interest of the Authority.

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<u>Exhibit #</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Ward</u>	<u>Sq. Ft.</u>
1.	Union, Austin, Rutherford, Charlestown	2	17,653
2.	Waterfront Park, Downtown	3	178,155
3.	Watson Park, South End	3	3,579
4.	School St. Park, Downtown	3	3,251
5.	Cardinal Cushing Park, Government Center	3	14,288
6.	108-122 Intervale St., Brunswick-King	14	23,280
7.	236-250 Magnolia St., Brunswick-King	14	21,191

FACT SHEET

PROJECT: Charlestown

PARK: Rutherford Avenue Play Area

ADDRESS: Union, Austin, Rutherford

WARD: 2

SIZE: 17,653

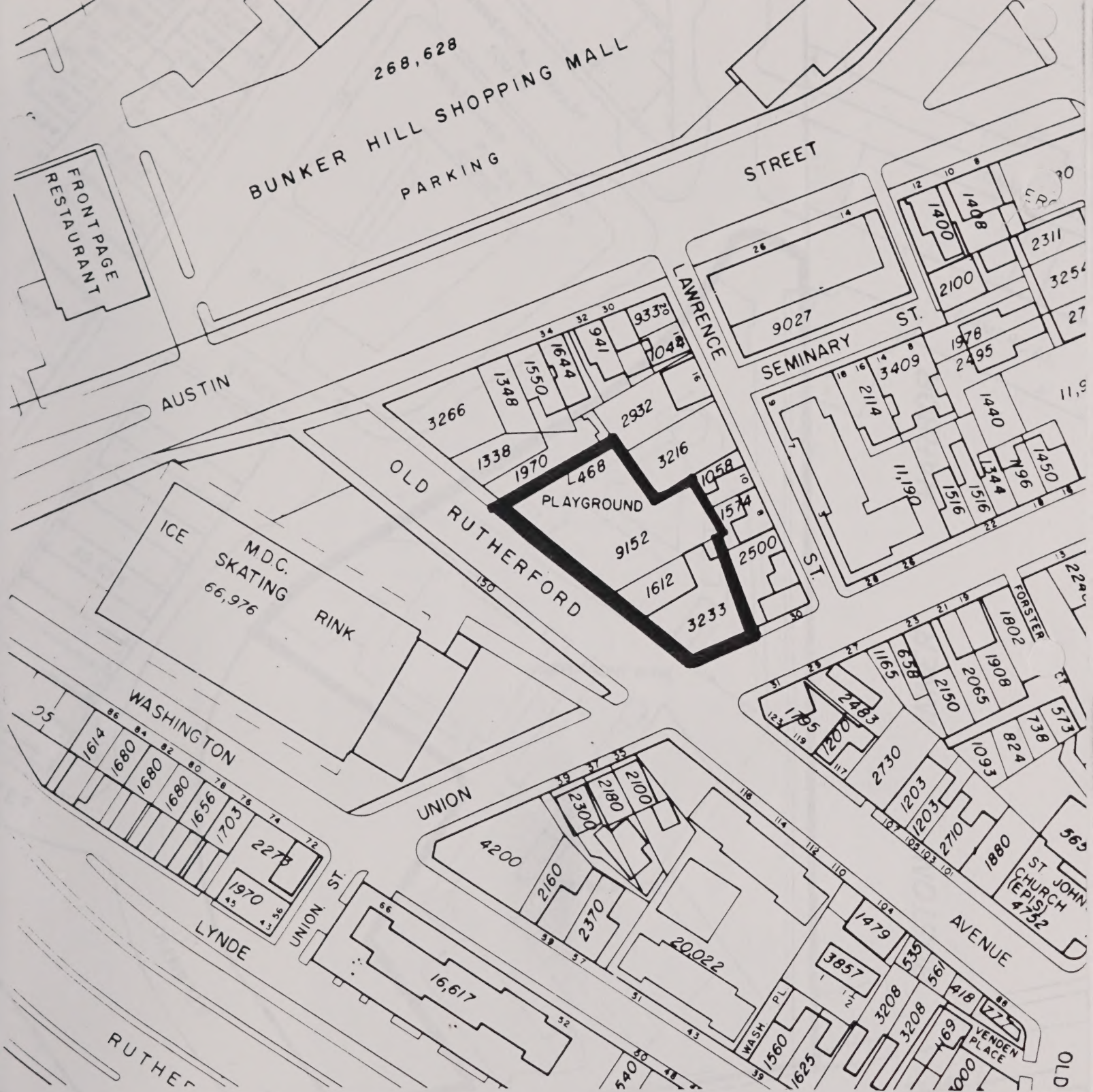
DISPOSITION

PARCEL #: R-18

DESCRIPTION: Rutherford Avenue play area is a small trapezoidal playground at the intersection of two quiet streets. Residential buildings abut the park on two sides. The park contains a play structure for young children, tennis court and sitting area. Situated near MDC skating rink.

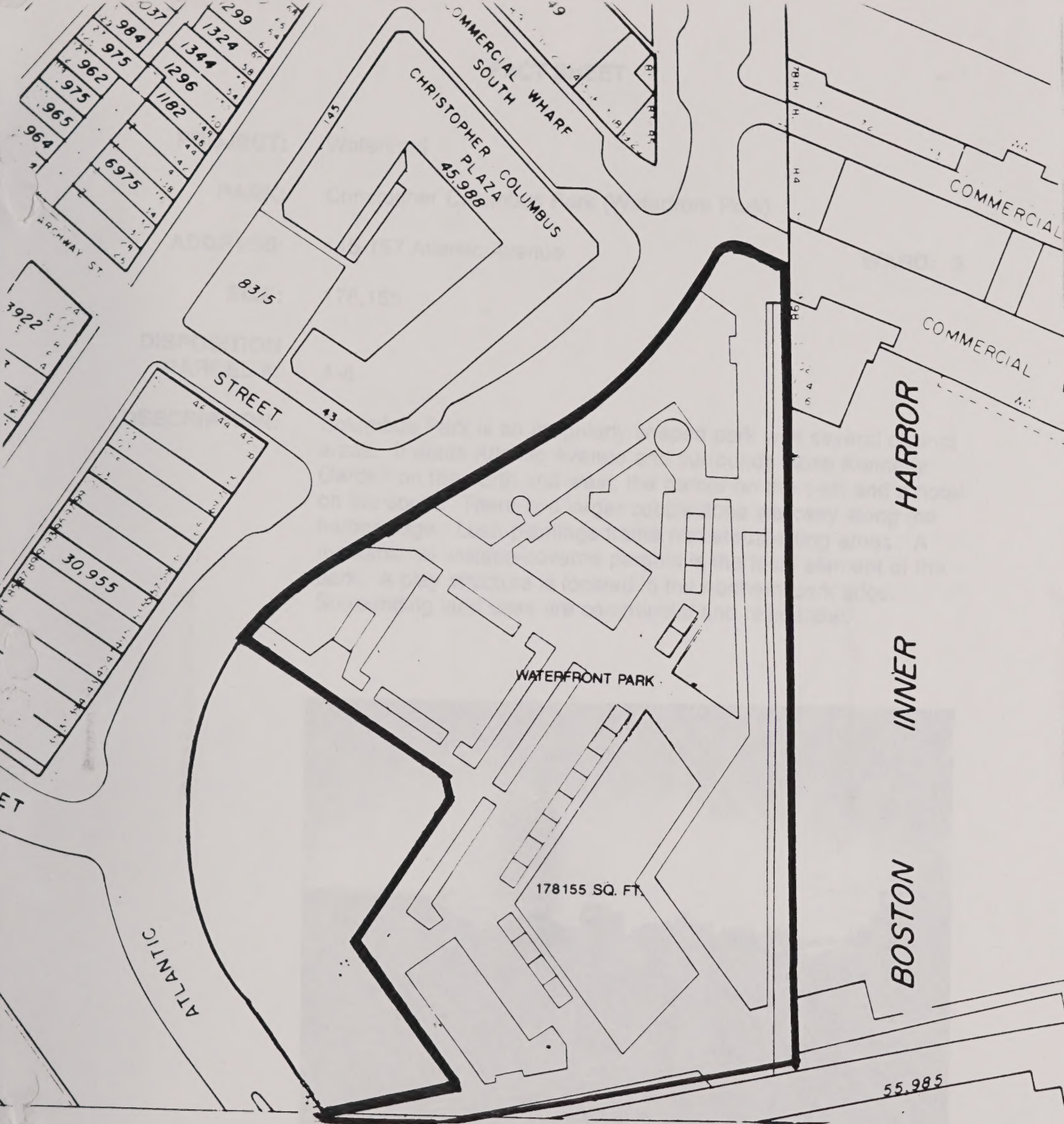


RES4/10.RPT
051992/2



PROJECT : CHARLESTOWN
 ADDRESS : UNION ST./OLD RUTHERFORD ST.
 WARD : 2
 DISP. PAR#: R-18
 SQ. FT. : 17653
 PREPARED BY REAL ESTATE SERVICES

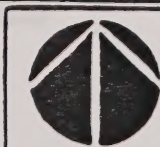
1		
DATE :		
Massachusetts BOSTON REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY		



PROJECT : WATERFRONT
ADDRESS : 115-157 ATLANTIC AVE./WATERFRONT PK
WARD : 3
DISP. PAR: A-8
SQ. FT. : 178155
PREPARED BY REAL ESTATE SERVICES

DATE :

2



Massachusetts

BOSTON REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY



FACT SHEET

PROJECT: Waterfront

PARK: Christopher Columbus Park (Waterfront Park)

ADDRESS: 115-157 Atlantic Avenue

WARD: 3

SIZE: 178,155

DISPOSITION

PARCEL #: A-8

DESCRIPTION:

Columbus Park is an irregularly shaped park with several distinct areas. It abuts Atlantic Avenue and surrounds Rose Kennedy Garden on the north and west, the harbor on the east and a hotel on the south. There is a larger cobblestone walkway along the harbor edge. Lush plantings frame numerous sitting areas. A monumental wisteria-covered pergola is the focal element of the park. A play structure is located in the northern park edge. Surrounding land uses are commercial and residential.



FACT SHEET

PROJECT: South End

PARK: Watson Park

ADDRESS: 12 Taylor Street/Milford Street

WARD: 3

SIZE: 3,579

DISPOSITION

PARCEL #: P-25A & B

DESCRIPTION: Watson Park consists of two small landscaped areas at the corner of Milford and Taylor Streets. They are small sitting gardens for neighborhood residents. This area is enclosed with a tall iron picket fence and shaded with trees and an assortment of shrubs, flowers, and ground covers, most of which have reportedly been planted by neighbors. This smaller area is framed with plantings and enclosed with an iron picket fence.



WATSON PARK



FACT SHEET

PROJECT: Downtown

PARK: School Street Park

ADDRESS: 289-309 Washington Street

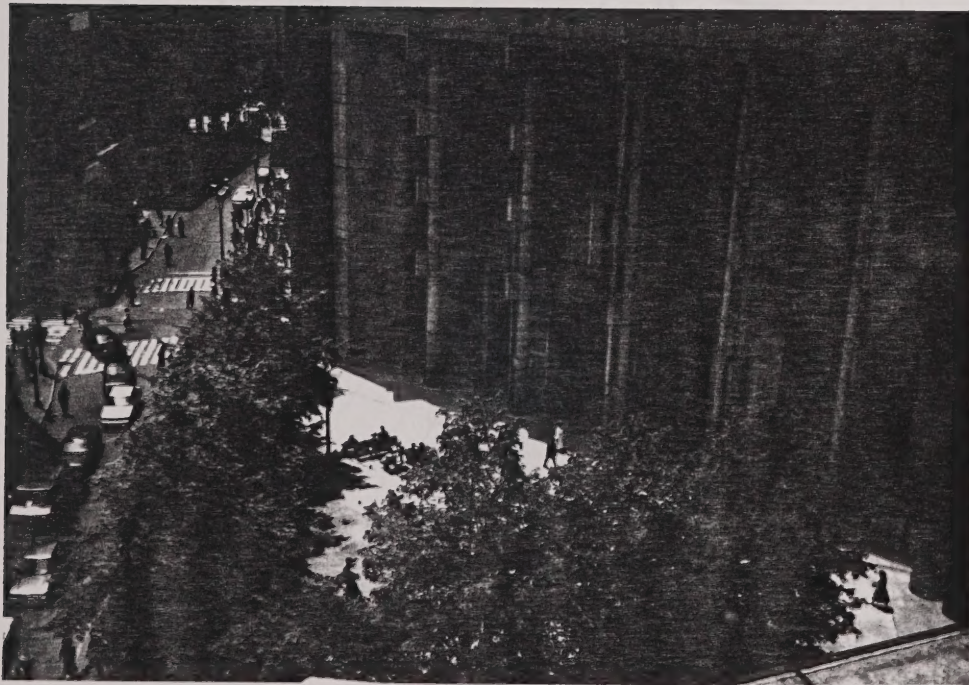
WARD: 3

SIZE: 3,251

DISPOSITION

PARCEL #: A-2

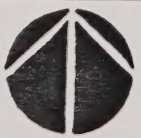
DESCRIPTION: Triangular portion of former street with sitting benches. Maintained by Boston Five Cents Savings Bank and Downtown Crossing merchants. Several trees and shrubs within park.



RES4/10.RPT
051992/5



NUMBER : 202
 PROJECT : DOWNTOWN
 ADDRESS : 289-309 WASHINGTON ST./SCHOOL ST.
 WARD : 3
 DISP.PAR# : A-2
 SQ.FT. : 3251
 PREPARED BY REAL ESTATE SERVICES

4	
DATE :	
Massachusetts BOSTON REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY	

FACT SHEET

PROJECT: Government Center

PARK: Cardinal Cushing Park

ADDRESS: 73-79 Cambridge Street/N. Chardon Street

WARD: 3

SIZE: 14,288

DISPOSITION

PARCEL #: 2-A

DESCRIPTION: Cushing Park is a somewhat triangular site located on the corner of Cambridge and New Chardon Streets in the Government Center section of downtown Boston. There are shade and flowering trees as well as shrubs and groundcovers. There is a commercial building to the north and a subway entrance and building to the east. At the end of a ramp leading into the park from the east is a bust of Cardinal Cushing. Recently reconstructed and currently maintained by Gunwyn Company under agreement with BRA.



RES4/10.RPT
051992/6



NUMBER : 159
 PROJECT : GOVT. CENTER
 ADDRESS : 73-79 CAMBRIDGE ST./N. CHARDON
 WARD : 3
 DISP. PART : 2-A
 SQ. FT. : 14288
 PREPARED BY REAL ESTATE SERVICES

5		
DATE :		
Massachusetts BOSTON REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY		

FACT SHEET

PROJECT: Brunswick King

PARK: King School Park

ADDRESS: 108-122 Intervale Street/Coleus Park

WARD: 14

SIZE: 31,667

DISPOSITION

PARCEL #: P-3

DESCRIPTION: King School Park is a small sloping site with puddingstone rock outcroppings on the corner of Intervale Street and Coleus Park. To the north is a high school. The school's parking lot abuts the park's west boundary. The site has tennis and basketball courts terraced along Intervale Street. Two sitting areas are provided, one adjacent to the school parking lot at the school entrance and the other at the corner of Intervale and Coleus. Above a slope with puddingstone outcroppings is a second basketball court. Surrounding land uses are residential and institutional.





PROJECT :BRUNSWICK KING
 ADDRESS :108-122 INTERVALE ST./HAMILTON
 WARD :14
 DISP.PAR#:P-3
 SQ.FT. : 31667
 PREPARED BY REAL ESTATE SERVICES

DATE :	
Massachusetts BOSTON REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY	

FACT SHEET

PROJECT: Brunswick King

PARK:

ADDRESS: 236-250 Magnolia Street

WARD: 14

SIZE: 21,191

DISPOSITION

PARCEL #: P-2

DESCRIPTION: Passive park with benches overlooking Ceylon Playground on Columbia Road.

